

Appl. No. 09/503,140  
Amdt. Dated April 29, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of November 1, 2005

### **REMARKS**

In response to the Examiner's final office action, Applicants have modified the independent claims to clarify the invention and distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art of record. More specifically, Applicants have modified the independent claims to further include the requirement that the control operation perform adjusting of a parameter signal determined by calculation of an amount of error rate variation, the parameter signal adjustment being based upon a difference from an optimal value and error rate calculations periodically made above and below the optimum value.

Applicants note that the support for these modifications can be found throughout the specification and specific support and description is found at page 25 which describes the initiation of the parameter signal adjustment process. In accordance with the description contained therein beginning on page 23 and carrying over through page 25, the parameter adjustment signal is based upon a difference from an optimal value as shown in illustration of Figure 5. Applicant respectfully submits that these modifications clarify the issues raised by the Examiner in the last office action and also distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. More specifically, Applicant's respectfully submit that none of the references of record provide any teaching her suggestion whatsoever regarding the specified adjustment operation that is described in the instant application and which is set forth in the claims. Accordingly, in light of the foregoing, Applicant's respect for cement all claims now stand in condition for allowance.

As described in the specification, an initial assessment is made of the error rate both above and below the optimum value. If the error is too great, further adjustment of the parameter is thereafter performed. The prior art cited by the Examiner provides no teaching or suggestion whatsoever regarding this advance in the art which enables convenient monitoring of the reproduction characteristics so that any necessary adjustments can be quickly made.

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Accordingly, in light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims now stand in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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